

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1673 without my signature.

In prior years, I have vetoed legislation that addressed the issue of consumer rebates because I did not want them to lead to fewer rebate options for California consumers. I have always believed in the balance between consumer protection and limited regulation over business operations. While the author of this bill has put forth an interesting proposal relating to the advertisement of pre-rebate prices and post-rebate prices, there are still outstanding issues related to practical consequences that still need to be resolved. For instance, a California retailer should not have to be held to the responsibilities triggered in this bill, if it does not have control over the manner in which a manufacturer's national rebate advertising campaign is structured. Furthermore, I would like to further examine the anomalies that may exist from industry to industry before I can consider enacting a measure such as this.

For this reason, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger